



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Thomas R. Winston, et al.

: Atty. Dkt. No.: 15225/41

Serial No.: 09/539,015

: Group Art Unit: 3737

Filed: March 30, 2000

: Examiner: S. Shaw

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
GUIDING A GUIDE WIRE

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO  
FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
Box AF  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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OCT 21 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

This amendment is filed within two months of the Final Office Action dated August 13, 2002, as it is filed on the next business day following Monday, October 14, 2002 (a holiday). Please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks.

In The Claims:

1. (twice amended) Apparatus configured to guide a guide wire through body tissue, said apparatus comprising a guide wire with at least one interferometric guidance system coupled thereto, said interferometric guidance system for generating interference information from the body tissue, said interferometric system comprising a circuit for generating Doppler shift information configured to detect neovascular flow through the tissue by revealing relative changes in blood flow velocity at the guide wire distal end.

14. (twice amended) A method to determine neovascular flow through tissue in a vessel, said method comprising using an interferometric system to examine the vessel and comprising performing a Doppler shift analysis on frequencies of interference peaks generated by the interferometric system examining the vessel to determine the velocity of blood.